

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 02/14916

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C07C29/74 C07C31/26

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C07C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0 711 743 A (ROQUETTE FRERES) 15 May 1996 (1996-05-15) cited in the application column 8, line 36 - line 54; example 1	1-17
A	EP 1 095 925 A (ROQUETTE FRERES) 2 May 2001 (2001-05-02) paragraph '0020!	18, 19

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 November 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

12.12.2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel: (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

English, R

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 02/14916

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-17

Process for the preparation of sugar alcohol compositions

2. claims: 18,19

Sorbitol compositions

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP 02/14916

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0711743	A	15-05-1996	FR	2726829 A1	15-05-1996
			AT	181723 T	15-07-1999
			AU	700702 B2	14-01-1999
			AU	3772795 A	16-05-1996
			BR	9505131 A	11-03-1997
			CA	2162527 A1	11-05-1996
			CN	1130502 A ,B	11-09-1996
			DE	69510520 D1	05-08-1999
			DE	69510520 T2	05-01-2000
			EP	0711743 A1	15-05-1996
			ES	2133692 T3	16-09-1999
			FI	955399 A	11-05-1996
			HU	74979 A2	28-03-1997
			JP	8228719 A	10-09-1996
			PL	311337 A1	13-05-1996
			US	5773604 A	30-06-1998
			ZA	9509305 A	04-11-1996
<hr/>					
EP 1095925	A	02-05-2001	FR	2800370 A1	04-05-2001
			AT	247615 T	15-09-2003
			AU	6960700 A	03-05-2001
			BR	0007264 A	16-10-2001
			CA	2324117 A1	28-04-2001
			CN	1327439 T	19-12-2001
			DE	60004620 D1	25-09-2003
			EP	1095925 A1	02-05-2001
			WO	0130731 A1	03-05-2001
			HU	0105095 A2	29-04-2002
			JP	2003512445 T	02-04-2003
			NO	20012912 A	13-06-2001
			PL	348525 A1	03-06-2002
			US	6417346 B1	09-07-2002
			ZA	200005942 A	20-04-2001
<hr/>					